

VILLAGE OF COLONIE

VILLAGE HALL

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EDWARD F. SIM MAYOR

<u>jblot@colonievillage.org</u> www.villageofcolonie.org THOMAS TOBIN
DEPUTY MAYOR

PATTY SCHWARZ LOCKART TRUSTEE JACK MURPHY TRUSTEE

> JAMIE BLOT CLERK

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
RESOLUTION #37 OF 2019
"WATER RATE CHANGES AMENDMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF COLONIE FEE
SCHEDULE"
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020
6:00 P.M.

Mayor Sim opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.

Clerk Blot read aloud the notice of advertisement as it appeared in the newspaper and public access places.

Mayor Sim stated the Town of Colonie recently passed their water fee schedule for the upcoming 2020 year and raised that they will be charging the Village of Colonie for water usage. The Town of Colonie will be raising the water rate for the Village by 5 cents per 1,000 gallons of usage. They will be also raising our surcharge for unmetered usage from 9% to 11% which is the equivalent of 7 cents per 1,000 gallons of usage. To offset this increase of 12 cents, we are raising our residential and commercial rates 10 cents per 1,000 gallons of usage. He also added that we pay towards a portion of the debt. service which is around \$125,000 a cycle.

Trustee Lockart added that the Town of Colonie raises the rates each year at their annual meeting and we have not raised our rates in a number of years to try and absorb some of these costs.

Resident, Carol Trifiletti mentioned her concerns being a senior citizen on a fixed income, with rate increases. She also added that she had concerns with the minimum bill. She said that if she uses less than 25,000 gallons a cycle, which she usually does, she still has to pay for 25,000 gallons worth of water.

Trustee Tobin said an analysis was done years ago to compare if we did away with the minimum and everyone paid for what they use, but factoring in the other expenses to meet out base was going to be too much of a raise per 1,000 gallons, so we continued to have the minimum charge in place.

Mayor Sim stated that for minimum bills this will equate to an increase of \$2.50 per cycle, \$5.00 per year. He also added that we don't have a say to the Town of Colonie on what our increases are.

Attorney De Cotis stated that between 2005-2008 a lot of time was spent looking at the minimum and it became an unruly kind of calculation. He also mentioned the current contract with the Town of Colonie, through Latham Water District expired mid-year 2019. We were informed as of December that the rate was increasing, as well as the surcharge percentage.

Mayor Sim stated that if approved, this increase would not take effect until the October 2020 billing.

A motion was made by Mayor Sim to adjourn the public hearing. Motion seconded by Trustee Lockart.

VOTE: Trustee Lockart Yes

Trustee Murphy Yes
Trustee Tobin Yes
Mayor Sim Yes

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m. Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie L. Blot Village Clerk Village of Colonie